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Statistical Commission
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Item 2 of the provisional agenda*
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda and annotations

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4. Items for information:
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(c) Industrial statistics;

(d) Distributive-trade statistics;

(e) Energy statistics;

(f) Finance statistics;

(g) Price statistics;

(h) Coordination and integration of statistical programmes;

(i) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata;

(j) Follow-up to Economic and Social Council policy decisions.

5. Programme questions (United Nations Statistics Division).

6. Provisional agenda and dates for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission.

7. Report of the Commission on its thirty-eighth session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and past practices, the Statistical Commission, at the commencement of its first meeting of a regular session, shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur (the Bureau).

The Bureau serves for two years, as far as possible. This is achieved by electing the Bureau for a period of one year and re-electing those members of the Bureau who continue to be representatives to the Commission at the following session. The Bureau is elected based on the principle of equitable geographical distribution — a member of the Bureau is elected from each of the regions represented on the Commission.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The items on the provisional agenda and the corresponding documentation were proposed by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session (New York, 7-10 March 2006)[1] and were adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2006/232. The Bureau of the Commission has subsequently approved some changes. The proposed draft organization of work and a note on the state of preparation of documentation for the session are before the Commission. The Commission may wish to adopt the agenda and organization of work for its thirty-eighth session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (E/CN.3/2007/1)

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 4* (E/2006/24), chap. I, sect. B, draft decision.

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the session (E/CN.3/2007/L.1)

Note by the Secretariat on the state of preparation of documentation for the session (E/CN.3/2007/CRP.1)

3. Items for discussion and decision

(a) Programme review: education statistics

The Statistical Commission will have before it a report prepared by Statistics Canada, containing a programme review of education statistics. The report presents the current situation, analyses the challenges and provides specific recommendations. The Commission may wish to express its views on the findings, conclusions and recommendations for future work in this area.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the programme reviewer on education statistics (E/CN.3/2007/2)

(b) Population and housing censuses

The Statistical Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on population and housing censuses. The report summarizes activities completed in response to actions taken by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session with regard to the implementation of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, including the revision of the United Nations *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*. The Commission may wish to express its views on the activities and also adopt the revised *Principles and Recommendations*.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/2007/3)

(c) Disability measurement

The Commission will have before it the report of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics. The report outlines the work accomplished by the Washington Group in the design of disability questions for censuses and outlines future activities, including the development of disability questions for surveys. The Commission is requested to express its views on the findings, conclusions and recommendations for future work of the Washington Group. In particular, the Washington Group is seeking the Commission's approval of its workplan for 2007.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics (E/CN.3/2007/4)

(d) Information and communication technology (ICT) statistics

The Commission will have before it a report prepared by the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technologies for Development, which

presents the list of core ICT indicators agreed upon at the 2005 global meeting on measuring the information society and recommended by the 11 member organizations of the Partnership as a basis for the collection of comparable ICT statistics internationally. The report also provides a short update of the work carried out by the Partnership and its future plans. The Commission may wish to comment on the work undertaken and the future plans of the partnership, and endorse the list of core ICT indicators presented.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technologies for Development (E/CN.3/2007/5)

(e) Agricultural statistics

The Commission will have before it a report prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), providing an update on the recent developments in agricultural statistics and future challenges and plans. The report describes the basic features of the modernized FAOSTAT and its new country version CountrySTAT, the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2010 and work on agricultural classifications, as well as efforts to improve the coverage, quality and exchange of agricultural statistics. The Commission may wish to review the developments and express its views on the status of agricultural statistics and provide guidance on future directions and activities.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (E/CN.3/2007/6)

(f) National accounts

The Commission will have before it the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts. The report describes progress in the work completed in the updating of the System of National Accounts, 1993 (1993 SNA). The recommendations on the issues for updating will be presented to the Commission for consideration in a separate background document. The report includes the plan towards the completion of the draft 1993 SNA Rev.1. The Commission is requested to review the work on the update and express its view on the recommendations for the updating of the 1993 SNA.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (E/CN.3/2007/7)

(g) Integrated economic statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on integrated economic statistics. It contains an update on the work initiated by the Friends of the Chair, which was established at the request of the Statistical

Commission at its thirty-seventh session. The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/2007/8)

(h) Environmental accounting

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting. The report describes the progress of work of the Committee, in particular concerning the refinement of working relationships with other groups responsible for the development of environment, energy and related statistics. It outlines the objectives, governance and reporting structure of the London Group on Environmental Accounting during the revision process of the *System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting 2003* (SEEA-2003). The report presents the draft *System of Environmental and Economic Accounting for Water* (SEEAW), as recommended by the Committee and the user community. The Commission may wish to express its views on the work of the Committee.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (E/CN.3/2007/9)

(i) International economic and social classifications

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General, providing updated information on the work on international classifications and focusing in particular on the implementation of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) and the Central Product Classification (CPC). The Commission may wish to comment on the outlined implementation plan.

The Commission will also have before it a report prepared by the International Labour Office (ILO) providing information on recent developments and progress in updating the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO). The report describes the status of the project and ILO plans for completion and adoption of the updated ISCO. A complete draft classification structure for the updated ISCO will be available as a background document. The Commission may wish to comment on the draft and on the ILO plans to complete the work.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/2007/10)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the International Labour Office (E/CN.3/2007/11)

(j) Management issues in national statistical offices: access to microdata

The Commission will have before it a report prepared by Australia, drawn from the work of the Task Force on Confidentiality and Microdata, constituted by the Conference of European Statisticians. The report reviews some standard ways in

which microdata are currently made available to national and international users, and outlines procedures for statistical offices to safeguard the confidentiality of individuals represented in microdata access. It also reports on the role that some international and research institutions are playing as "data depositories" for some developing country national statistical offices. The Commission may wish to express its view on the guidelines for microdata access.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (E/CN.3/2007/12)

(k) Development indicators

The Commission will have before it a report of the Secretary-General describing the work of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Millennium Development Goals Indicators in 2006 in the following areas: improvement of the coverage, transparency and reporting on all indicators as presented in the database on all Millennium Development Goals; review of methodologies related to the agreed indicators; coordination of data collection at the global level; coordination and support to countries in the compilation and analysis of indicators at the national level; preparation of the yearly analysis and reports on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. The Commission may wish to comment on progress made by the Expert Group and future directions of its work.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/2007/13)

(l) Statistical capacity-building

This report is submitted to the Commission in accordance with its request at its thirty-seventh session to report on the implementation of the resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council in July 2006, on strengthening statistical capacity. The report provides an overview of the work undertaken by the United Nations Statistics Division and by the Inter-Agency Expert Group on Millennium Development Goals Indicators in 2006 to support national efforts in building and strengthening national statistical capacity. The Commission may wish to comment on the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/2007/14)

(m) International Comparison Programme

The Commission will have before it a report prepared by the International Comparison Programme Global Office of the World Bank on progress towards the completion of the 2005 round and the publication of the regional and global results. The report also includes a summary of results contributing to capacity-building for the International Comparison Programme and a proposal for a review of lessons learned from this round. The Commission may wish to review progress and provide direction on the continuation of the Programme.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Bank (E/CN.3/2007/15)

4. Items for information

(a) Migration statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General, presenting the United Nations Statistics Division activities on international migration. The report summarizes the main conclusions and recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on the theme "Measuring international migration: concepts and methods", held in New York, from 4 to 7 December 2006. It proposes major activities to be undertaken as a follow-up to the Expert Group meeting. The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/2007/16)

(b) Health statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, a report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Health Statistics that addresses the concerns of the Commission expressed at its thirty-seventh session and describes progress made by the Working Group along those lines in setting priorities and defining a workplan for the group. The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Health Statistics (E/CN.3/2007/17)

(c) Industrial statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General on industrial statistics, further outlining a proposed work programme on industrial statistics. The Commission is requested to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/2007/18)

(d) Distributive-trade statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General that describes the work progress on distributive-trade statistics, including the preparation of the revised provisional draft of the international recommendations on distributive-trade statistics, building a worldwide network of country experts in the areas of statistics, collection and analysis of good practices in the compilation of these statistics. The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/2007/19)

(e) Energy statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics on its first meeting. The report also summarizes the work of the Group since its first meeting. The Commission is invited to take note of the report. The Commission will also have before it, for information, the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Energy Statistics describing the work in progress in the area of energy statistics. The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics (E/CN.3/2007/20)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Energy Statistics (E/CN.3/2007/21)

(f) Finance statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the International Monetary Fund, summarizing recent developments and planned activities in the field of finance statistics. The Commission is requested to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the International Monetary Fund (E/CN.3/2007/22)

(g) Price statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics covering the development of the Export and Import Price Index Manual and the future work of the Working Group. The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics (E/CN.3/2007/23)

(h) Coordination and integration of statistical programmes

The Commission will have before it, for information, a report that summarizes the main conclusions of the fifth and sixth meetings of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities, held in New York, on 6 March 2006, and in Montreal, from 4 to 5 September 2006, respectively. The Commission may wish to take into account, in its discussions under relevant agenda items, the views expressed by the Committee. The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

The Commission will have before it a report, for information, prepared by the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century. The report outlines the efforts by the Partnership in promoting the better use of better statistics as a central part of the enabling environment for development progress, particularly through support to countries in the design, implementation and monitoring of national strategies for the development of statistics, through advocacy and by

encouraging donor collaboration in statistical support programmes. The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (E/CN.3/2007/24)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Steering Committee on the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century (E/CN.3/2007/25)

(i) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata

The Commission will have before it a report, for information, on results achieved by seven international organizations involved in an initiative to foster standards on Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX). The SDMX sponsoring institutions include the Bank for International Settlements, the European Central Bank, the Statistical Office of the European Communities, the International Monetary Fund, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Nations Statistics Division and the World Bank. The SDMX initiative has been reporting to the Statistical Commission since its thirty-third session in March 2002, and this report reviews recent developments in standards, guidelines and implementations. The Commission may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Task Force to Establish Standards on Data and Metadata Exchange (E/CN.3/2007/26)

(j) Follow-up to Economic and Social Council policy decisions

This item was placed on the agenda by the Commission at the request of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1999/51 with a view to encouraging a closer relationship between the work of the Commission and of the Council. The Commission will have before it, for information, a note by the Secretary-General containing extracts from Council resolutions, decisions and agreed conclusions that are relevant to the work of the Commission and the actions taken or planned by the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on policy decisions of the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of the Commission (E/CN.3/2007/27)

5. Programme questions (United Nations Statistics Division)

The Commission will receive an oral report from the Director of the United Nations Statistics Division concerning current activities, plans and priorities. It will also have before it the proposed programme of work of the Statistics Division for the biennium 2008-2009. The Commission is invited to approve the changes to the work programme for 2007 and to comment on the proposed programme for 2008-2009.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the proposed programme of work of the Statistics Division for the biennium 2008-2009 (E/CN.3/2007/28)

6. Provisional agenda and dates for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-ninth session, together with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each item and the legislative authority for their preparation. The Commission will also have before it a proposal for the dates of the session. In addition, in accordance with a request of the Council (see Council resolution 1999/51), the Commission will have before it a draft multi-year programme of work for 2007-2010. The Commission may wish to approve the date, provisional agenda and documentation for its thirty-ninth session, as well as to approve the multi-year programme.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission (E/CN.3/2007/CRP.2)

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Commission (E/CN.3/2007/29)

7. Report of the Commission on its thirty-eighth session

The Commission may wish to adopt the report on its thirty-eighth session, which will be submitted to the Council.

Documentation

Draft report of the Commission on its thirty-eighth session (E/CN.3/2007/L.__)